

Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 SAB-01 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 /074 W

----- 092129

R 190846Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5634

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 1064

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IS, SY/XF

SUBJ: RABIN TOURS GOLAN HEIGHTS SETTLEMENTS

1. ISRAELI PRESS FEB 18 REPORTS THAT PM RABIN PRECEDING DAY MADE TOUR OF SETTLEMENTS ON GOLAN HEIGHTS, INCLUDING STOPS AT MAROM HAGOLAN, BNEI YEHUDA, AND RAMAT MAGSHINIM. EMPHASIS DURING TOUR WAS ON DEVELOPMENT OF REGION, WITH WHICH RABIN SAID HE WAS IMPRESSED.

2. JERUSALEM POST STORY HIGHLIGHTS RABIN STATEMENT DURING TOUR TO EFFECT THAT ISRAEL DID NOT BUILD SETTLEMENTS ON GOLAN HEIGHTS IN ORDER TO EVACUATE THEM OR TO CREATE SITUATION IN WHICH THOSE SETTLEMENTS WOULD NOT BE PART OF THE JEWISH STATE. POST GOES ON TO QUOTE RABIN AS SAYING "WE ARE OCCUPYING THE GOLAN HEIGHTS WITH A FEELING OF SECURITY WHICH ARISES FROM MILITARY STENGTH AND FROM THE STUBBORNNESS OF THE SETTLERS TO REMAIN IN THE GOLAN AND FACE THE DIFFICULT CONDITIONS."

3. RABIN MET WITH LEADERS OF THE VARIOUS SETTLEMENTS, WHO REPORTEDLY EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER FUTURE OF GOLAN AREA AND DEMANDED FORMATION OF MORE SETTLEMENTS, CLEAR GOVERNMENTAL

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POLICY TOWARD REGION, AND ENFORCEMENT OF ISRAELI LAW.

ON LATTER POINT, RABIN IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT ISRAELI
LAW HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH DEVELOPMENT OF GOLAN AND THAT
THERE HAD BEEN NO SUGGESTION WITHIN GOI TO EXTEND ISRAELI
LAW TO OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

4. COMMENT: TOUR OF GOLAN BY PRIME MINISTER WAS PROBABLY
DESIGNED TO REASSURE SETTLERS, WHO MIGHT WELL HAVE BECOME CONCERNED
ABOUT GOI ABILITY TO OBTAIN SECOND-STAGE AGREEMENT IN SINAI
WITHOUT IT BEING LINKED IN SOME WAY TO FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS WITH
SYRIA.
KEATING

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